

August 4, 2011

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND
ENERGY CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Environmental Quality and Energy Conservation Commission convened in a regular session at 7:04 p.m. on Thursday, August 4, 2011 in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Commissioners Cunningham*, Gobble, Reilly, Watson, and Chairperson Griffiths.

Absent: Commissioners Chim (excused) and Robbins (excused).

Also Present: Deputy Community Development Director Cessna, Senior Environmental Quality Officer Duncan, and Madrona Marsh Preserve Manager/Naturalist Drake.

*Commissioner Cunningham arrived at 7:30 p.m.

3. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Commissioner Watson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. POSTING OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Commissioner Gobble, seconded by Commissioner Watson, moved to accept and file the report of the secretary on the posting of the agenda for this meeting; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

6A. MINUTES OF JULY 7, 2011

Deputy Director Cessna offered the following correction to the July 7, 2011 minutes: Page 3, 9A, paragraph 1: “;Commissioner Griffiths accepted the nomination.”

MOTION: Commissioner Reilly moved for the approval of the July 7, 2011 meeting minutes as corrected. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioners Chim, Cunningham, and Robbins).

7. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

7A. RECOGNITION OF THE LEOS SERVICE GROUP FOR THEIR WORK AT THE ENVIRONMENTAL FAIR

Deputy Director Cessna expressed appreciation to the Hwarang LEO Club for all their hard work at the last two Environmental Fairs and introduced Helen Lee, South Region Advisor, and Paul Lee, Founder and President of the Palos Verdes Chapter.

Paul Lee, Palos Verdes Peninsula High School, thanked the Commission for recognizing the LEO Club members at this meeting. He discussed some of the ecological and environmental dangers facing California and the importance of protecting the State and extending conservationism to the world. He stated that the LEO Clubs have assisted with several environmental conservation projects that include workdays with Palos Verdes Lands Conservancy, Tree Musketeers in El Segundo, Madrona Marsh Preserve, beach cleanups, and annual Arbor Days. He recognized Manager/Naturalist Drake and Ron Melin of the Madrona Marsh Preserve for teaching members how to properly carry out their work and the City for sponsoring an event that enlightens its residents about environmental concerns, energy conservation, and actions that can be taken to make the community more environmentally friendly.

Manager/Naturalist Drake commended LEO Club members for their hard work and dedication that has helped make the Environmental Fairs such successful events.

The following LEO Club members were recognized and awarded Green Pride in Torrance certificates and tee shirts:

<u>Palos Verdes Chapter</u>	<u>South Bay Chapter</u>	<u>Redondo Beach Chapter</u>
Jong In Paul Lee	Benjamin Lee	Heewon Kelly Park
Gilbert Lee	Brian G. Lee	Alex Kanghyun Lee
Jung Hyuk Yim	Bryan T. Yi	Han Kyeol Choi
Jee Yeo Yim	Kevin Ku	Youjin Jeong
Albert Hwang	Kwangjae Aaron Kim	Yelin Kim
Hyesoo Lee	Ji Young Lee	Jongwoo Kim
Yonsoo Lee	Paul Chung	Geonwoo Justin Lee
Sungsoo Lee	Tommy So	Suha Park
Sangheon Lee	Lisa Hong	Stacey Kim
Jung Min Lee	James Han	Ryan Kim
Michelle Kho	Kyungmin Kim	Soyeon Choi
Bouhee Eddie Kim		Jieun Jeong
Daniel SG Kim		Jane Jang
Chae Yeon Park		Woongbae Lee
Woo Hyun Sim		Sky Lee
Woo Seok Sim		Yonghoon Lee
		Jaesun Jason Lim
		Soohyoun Joung
		Roy Kim

The Commission was in recess from 7:22 to 7:30 for a photo opportunity with the Leo Club members in attendance.

Commissioner Cunningham arrived during the recess.

7B. JOINT TEQECC/COUNCIL MEETING

Deputy Director Cessna presented proposed dates for a joint meeting of the City Council and Commission: November 1, 15, or 22, 2011 or December 6 or 13, 2011 and noted that staff is awaiting feedback from City Council as to which of the proposed dates would be best.

She recommended for this joint meeting that Commissioners narrow their focus to current projects, such as the Climate Action Plan, Electric Vehicle Plan, or Performance Indicators for the Strategic Plan. She indicated that it would be better to focus on a topic that is concrete and actually being worked on right now as opposed to discussing topics that are more visionary.

A general discussion centered on which project to focus on at the joint meeting and there was consensus to select the Electric Vehicle Plan as the main topic.

Deputy Director Cessna provided information about the Electric Vehicle Plan tied to the Honda Electric Vehicle Demonstration Project. She stated that on August 23, 2011 City Council would be considering a grant for a free replacement charging station, noting that there needs to be at least one working charging station before the City can accept Honda's donation of an electric vehicle. She added that residents can now provide input on the website where they want charging stations and that development standards and parking are being reviewed by staff for the demonstration project.

Commissioner Gobble noted that there are four electric vehicles now and 12 coming out next year. He raised the possibility of displaying an electric vehicle and discussing carbon reduction and range at the joint meeting.

Commissioner Cunningham concurred with staff's suggestion to expand discussion to other alternative fuel vehicles and to provide information about the City's hydrogen and natural gas stations.

Chairperson Griffiths recommended talking about how the Electric Vehicle Plan ties into the City's Strategic Plan.

Deputy Director Cessna advised Commissioners that she would begin putting together information on electric vehicles and keep them informed about the meeting date.

8. INFORMATION ITEMS

8A. SOUTH BAY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES CENTER – Ocean Friendly Garden

Commissioner Cunningham announced the event at Wilderness Park on Saturday, September 10, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

9. NEW BUSINESS

9A. Deputy Director Cessna informed Commissioners that the bird-feeding ordinance would be brought back to the September 1, 2011 Commission meeting and the three-year oil well re-ups would be heard in October.

9B. Deputy Director Cessna stated that the natural gas station opening later this month is not planning a grand opening celebration.

9C. Commissioner Gobble shared information about a new Philips light bulb, an August 15, 2011 free Homeowner Solar Class at the South Bay Service Center, and an article about solar sky lights.

9D. Commissioner Gobble announced a lamp exchange at the Forum on August 17-18, 2011 and showed a Southern California Edison brochure "Saving Energy, Money and the Environment Begins at Home" available at City Hall.

9E. Chairperson Griffiths shared a Southern California Edison flier that was in the Daily Breeze and announced a South Bay Environmental Services Center presentation on the Upgrade California rebate program on August 20, 2011.

Deputy Director Cessna noted that there is a program that allows non-profit organizations in the community to act as ambassadors for the rebate program.

Commissioner Watson offered to talk to the Old Torrance Homeowners Association about the opportunity.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At 8:04 p.m., Commissioner Gobble moved to adjourn the meeting to September 1, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex meeting room. Commissioner Watson seconded the motion and, hearing no objection, Chairperson Griffiths so ordered.

Approved as Submitted September 1, 2011 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
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